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Conclusions and recommendations of the biannual review of the implementation of the Sierra Leone Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework

1. The Government of Sierra Leone and the Peacebuilding Commission adopted the Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework on 12 December 2007. The Framework is one of the primary engagement and partnership instruments between the Government of Sierra Leone and the international community. The commitments contained in the Framework are central to ensuring lasting and self-sustaining peace and should be implemented by the Government of Sierra Leone, the Peacebuilding Commission, the United Nations, bilateral and multilateral partners and all other relevant stakeholders.

2. The first biannual review of the Framework resulted in the following recommendations.

3. **The Government of Sierra Leone:**

(a) Continue the implementation of the emergency energy plan and develop an overall energy sector strategy and coordination structure;

(b) Provide support for the work of the National Human Rights Commission and ensure timely follow-up to the implementation of the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission;

(c) Ensure that, in addition to its pro-growth emphasis, the next poverty reduction strategy paper is conflict sensitive, provides linkages with the Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework and contains well prioritized and sequenced objectives and activities;

(d) Undertake consultations with all relevant stakeholders on the report of the Constitutional Review Commission;

(e) Follow up on the decisions of the Presidential Summit of the Mano River Union held on 15 May 2008 and participate in the regular ministerial and sectoral meetings of the Mano River Union on issues of common concern;

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(f) Finalize and communicate decisions on the aid coordination architecture in Sierra Leone and, in consultation with all relevant partners, further develop a national aid coordination policy;

(g) Redouble efforts to step up domestic revenue generation in order to enhance effective national ownership and sustainability of reform initiatives and reduce aid/budgetary support dependency.

4. **The United Nations and international partners:**

(a) Support the Government of Sierra Leone in streamlining objectives of its various strategic frameworks, especially the poverty reduction strategy paper, and develop a shared understanding of how best to ensure sustainability of efforts to build the capacity of national institutions, including by ensuring close coordination with the private sector development efforts;

(b) Support the Government of Sierra Leone in ensuring implementation of the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the establishment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Follow-up Committee within the Human Rights Commission as stipulated by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Act;

(c) Support the creation of the National Youth Commission and labour centres to address issues of youth employment and empowerment;

(d) Continue to support the implementation of the emergency energy plan and encourage the Government of Sierra Leone to develop an overall strategy for energy sector development with a clearly defined coordination mechanism and structure;

(e) Provide immediate support to the Government of Sierra Leone, to mitigate the effects of the global food crisis and the rising oil prices and closely monitor the situation to ensure that it does not undermine the ongoing peace consolidation efforts;

(f) Continue to provide maximum support for the local council elections and ensure the institutionalization of the Political Parties Registration Commission and other national institutions after the local council elections;

(g) Enhance preparations for the Peacebuilding Commission country-specific meetings and engage more directly with the Peacebuilding Support Office and the Chair of the country-specific meetings on agenda setting and preparations of background materials.

5. **The Peacebuilding Commission:**

(a) Support the secretariat established within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to coordinate and ensure the Government's leadership in the Peacebuilding Commission process;

(b) Encourage greater international support for the Government's efforts to mitigate the effects of the global food crisis and the rising oil prices and advocate for the strengthening of the agricultural sector and private sector development;

(c) Encourage Sierra Leone's international partners to streamline and better coordinate their bilateral and multilateral assistance frameworks;

(d) Provide greater support for the advocacy and resource mobilization efforts of the Government of Sierra Leone, especially in preparation for the next Consultative Group meeting;

(e) Encourage non-traditional donors and additional partners to consider engagement in Sierra Leone, to the extent possible, through multi-donor funding mechanisms and support to sector-wide programmes;

(f) Advocate with the Security Council and the relevant agencies, funds and programmes, to ensure that the United Nations system in Sierra Leone has adequate capacity to support the work of the Peacebuilding Commission in a coherent and effective manner;

(g) Strengthen outreach and communications efforts, with the support of the Peacebuilding Support Office.